AN EMBARRASSMENT OF RICHES.

The Diaphanous Goods Beautiful Beyond Description.

Designs More Exquisite Than Ever-Fur-Still Selling in Spite of a Spring Floor of Thin Materials-Lace Used to Trim the Furs-Stoles and Muffs of Plumage Coming-Sequins and Gold Again Used for Ornaments on Dresses-All White Still in High Favor-Wash Shirt-Walst Suits-The Latest Shirt-Walst Materials

This is a time of storm and stress for the woman of fashion. Winter has not loosened tte clutch, and the winter wardrobe, which is beginning to be the worse for wear, must be replenished. Yet Southern outings are demanding warm-weather finery, and the chops are full of spring fabrics from which the canny woman must make her selection before the choicest things in stock have been snapped up.

The heavy winter frocks have had their triumphant day and, though still in evidence on every hand, are back numbers in the shops, save as they represent the midwinter bargains.

Furs, however, are still selling briskly,

particularly in the form of stoles, scarfs and muffs in all fur or in fur combined with lace, chiffon or other light material. Women will cling to these accessories far into the spring, after heavy cloaks have been laid aside; and, when worn by the right woman the flat fur stole or pelerine is most picturesque and effective.

Ermine in combination with a yellow lace that echoes the hint of greenish yellow in the fur is possibly the most effective fur for such treatment, though sable is always the leader. The Siberian squirrel has run its course and through over-popularity is already an eyesore to the fas-

The fur stole or pelerine of the season has, by the way, furnished another illustration of vanky's triumph over common sass. No woman who owns a stunning fur pelerine, warranted to give her shoulders an 1830 droop and set off to advantage seque item of her toilet before entering the drawing room at reception or tea-



and fur-draped martyrdom, in overheate rooms, is one of the season's feminine ialties. Naturally bronchitis, pneumo nie and a trail of other ills of like nature fellow in the wake of the social Turkish bath, and doctors are sworn foes of the new furs-a fact which has had no effect whatever upon the popularity of the mis-

One feature of the fur, stoles, &c., which has become more pronounced as the season advances is the lace lining. At first the fur was lined with silk or satin. Then women to whom the added expense made no difference insisted upon a lining of contrasting fur. Later still came the lace lining.

To be correct, the lace must be of heavy handsome quality, and Venetian point is considered the thing altogether desirable as a backing for sable, and, in fact, for all handsome furs. The fad is an expensive one but at least it has more to recommend it than the absurd practice, somewhat in favor, of insetting heavy laces in the surface

As spring approaches stoles and muffs of plumage will gradually usurp the place of the furs, and already there are shown in Paris most delectable confections all in lace, chiffon or flowers, built upon the same models that have prevailed in fur this

While fur to une or consideration, its in ming for chiffon creasing vogue a eer fabrics should fur bands have apit results upon many



of the filmiest and most airy of ball gowns into favor, after having been completely and house gowns this winter. tabooed two seasons ago because of ex-cessive use. A note of gold appears in

A tea rose chiffon, illustrated, has little trimming beyond its soft shirrings, save in very narrow bands of sable, and yet it achieves considerable distinction. On a pale blue satin chiffon, narrow lines of hill, bordering bands of yellowish lace threaded with silver, formed a chic ers, may do away with almost all other flounce of white lace with black medallions

trimming; and on white in any soft material trimmings. There was never a time when

dark fur, sparingly used, is successful. The flood of sheer fabrics surging through the shops just now turns one's thoughts longingly to new evening frocks. Of course, summer frocks must come; but they loom vaguely on the horizon, and the need of fresh evening toilettes is always with us. So the chances are that many miles of these new gauzy stuffs will be fashioned into

was for evening use and worn long before

real summer frocks storm the fashion

Last season it seemed as though inspiration

in the matter of gauses, nets, mousselines, chiffons, tulles, &c., had reached high water

mark; yet now come a host of new stuffs

and designs, more exquisite than their pre-

Satin surfaced crepes and chiffons, in

weight somewhat heavier than the usual

quality, are among the most satisfactory

and serviceable of the light-weight ma-

terials, and lace is as popular as ever for

evening wear; but it is to the new diapha-

nous goods that one turns for thrills.

The printed chiffons and mousselines are

beautiful beyond description, and their

exquisite delicacy and daintiness make

them ideal for débutantes' frocks-dream

flowers scattered over moonshine, some of

There are printed nets, too, that are

new and charming, the soft trailing flower

designs printed so lightly that the open

mesh of the net does not interfere with the

shading. The silk dotted nets and gauzes

are improved in quality and designs, and

sequin-sprinkled net assumes some promi-

nence. In fact, the sequin whose obituory

notice has been so often written, is excessive

ly alive, and, while not much favored for

the frocks of very youthful wearers, is ex-

reedingly fancied for more elaborate even-

ing gowns. One particularly good French

frock shows a veiling of cream net dotted

with gold sequins under a gown of plain

cream net with trimming of inset lace.

A touch of gold is introduced in the girdle

Gold, it may be noted, is creeping back

many of the newest French trimmings,

but it is not strongly accentuated and has

Shirring plays an important part in the

new evening frock, and for youthful wear-

and at the edge of the décolletage.

no barbaric suggestion.

the loveliest seem.

soft and sheer costumes.

Nets, gauzes, chiffons, mousselines and shirred crepes and the soft silks and wools and étamines lend themselves readily to the treatment. Even the new Liberty cloths, satin surfaced and almost as supple and light in weight as crèpe, are given over to shirring, pleating and smocking.

a daintier and more fashionable evening frock could be made for less money.

Paris dressmakers have for several sea-

sons been trying vainly to oust the close-fitting skirt and bring full skirts into favor.

Even now women demand clinging hip ef-

fects in their heavy gowns; but the thin edge

of the wedge has surely entered the realm of evening frocks, and full skirts are the

rule rather than the exception among the

As a rule the shirring on the skirt resolves itself into a close-fitting hip yoke beneath which the billowy fulness begins; but, more and more, one sees skirts frankly shirred or pleated into the belt. The rage for slender hips and the way in which the new corsets cater to this fad make this full skirt more possible for the plump figure than it was in the past, but even now, it is the slender, willowy girl who carries the mode well.

Several of the evening frocks illustrated here show the tendency to increasing fulness, but one of them is a particularly good example of the possibilities of shirring as trimming. It is in white silk net with a tiny circle dot and made over soft, shimmering white silk with a veiling of white chiffon. The skirt is shirred closely in a shallow yoke and has two clusters of shirring below the yoke, so that, though full, it is held in comewhat closely down to the knees, below which it falls full over

innumerable flounces of silk and chiffen The bodice, too, is shirred, a clustering of shirring finishing the décolletage and forming caps for the short sleeves which

nd in a group of net frills to match the tiny

Another evening gown of creamy dotted

et has a full skirt trimmed with an ex-

ssively broad band of heavy vellow lace

he long full transparent sleeves are shirred

to elbow length cava'ier cuffs of the lace

nd from the round décollets ge fails a deep

The cape collar has not died with th

ason, but promises to have even greate

shapes are being shown among the spring

novelties, many of them reaching the dig-

ity of veritable capes. The stoles or

pelerines that have been conspicuous among

winter furs are being copied in laces and

inset with medallions of black chartilly

The very full sleeves of chiffon show hardly

at all under the collar which almost meets

the deep cuff of white and black lace. A broad

many smart frocks.

gue with the spring and summer. Hand-

ape collar of the same yellow lace.

ills on the skirt bottom.

finishes the skirt, and above it, as on the because they must have no starch, and bodice, run trailing hand-embroidered vines are altogether ideal materials for tailored bodice, run trailing hand-embroidered vines shirt waists or shirt-waist suits.

of delicate green silk. A tendency to use long transparent sleeve with a décolleté corsage is becoming more marked as the season advances, though the very short sleeve and the flowing elbow sleeve are still favorites. The close-fitting elbow sleeve, which had attained some popularity, is seldem seen, the fact that it was universally unbecoming being, doubtless, the explanation of its swift fill from grace. All indications point to a season of voluminous, flowing, picturesque sleeves. Picturesque is to be the keynote of the summer season, if there is any credence to be

placed in prophecy. Returning once more to evening gowns, a dotted net over a striped silk in pink and white is attractive with a trimming of pink panne edged with lace appliqué; and the plain mousselines or chiffons or nets over silks flowered in blurred chine effects are exceedingly dainty. These frocks often have inset lace motifs threaded through with narrow ribbon, harmonizing in colo with the tints of the flowered silk lining.

Chantilly lace dyed in delicate tints is the material for some of the newest ball gowns An accordion-pleated chantilly gown in palest lettuce stem green, made over white satin and chiffon and relieved by touches of black tulle and brilliants, was the Frenchi est of French costumes in a recent impor-

Chantillys in both black and cream also retain their vogue, and black point d'esprit inset with black on white chantilly and mad



The plain linens, embroidered by hand

In coarse mercerized ootton, are also emi-

nently chic, and, unless the wearer em-broiders them for herself, are even more

expensive than the heavy mercerized waiste,

which are expensive enough to alarm the

maid with a slender income. Then there

which are made up with more tucks and elaboration; and, of course, there are innumerable new patterns in the ever-presen

show nothing astonishingly new. Flatstitched yokes and shoulder straps, giving the fashionable long shoulder line, are on many of the waists. Heavy linen lace is introduced into more elaborate models. Strappings of plain linen on the rough linen, hand embroidery, &c., give variety, and there are variations rung upon the arrangement of box pleats and side pleats



over white is a most satisfactory all round costume. All white continues in high favor and

ill apparently be the top notch of the mode through the summer as it has been brough this winter. White cloth, white stamine, all the sheer white fabrice, white nen, everything, anything white, fine favor. A new white mohair with a very ilky surface promises to have a successful eign both in suits and in wraps.

The simple white étamine illustrated most satisfactory and inexpensive house rock, with its deep lace collar and it roup of tucks on bodice and skirt. Horicontal tucks in clusters are one of the favorte trimmings for the full plain skirts, and when laid to simulate a group of deep flat hems constitute the nuns' pleats, which ire mentioned so frequently in Paris fashion ournals.

The étamines and voiles will evidently ontinue their successful career this spring but as to heavier materials for tailor cos tumes little can be definitely prophesied The flecked effects were done to death i the fall and plain dark colors have gradu ally replaced them in the winter wardrobe of the fastidious, yet the early spring suit ngs show many of the coarsely fleckeffects. Tweeds, homespuns and an end ess variety of striped, dotted and figure nohairs are shown, with the blues and prowns still leading the color gamut.

The shirt-waist suit was a fad last ecoson t bids fair to be a mania this spring. It is already everywhere in étamine and other lightweight wools, in silks, in linens, ottons.

The foulards, which are still improving n quality and design, are being bough n great quantities for shirt-waist suit. and a host of other silks are ambitiou rivals. Small checks in dark blue and white or black and white, with rings o wafer dots of red, green, black or blue sprinkled over them, are especially adapted o such costumes and the soft, lustrouchangeable silks also have their title consideration.

When one comes to the wash shirt-wasuit, the variety is endless. So far present showing goes, the mercerize cotton goods will stand side by side wit the linens. They have been wonderful improved in finish, and from the shee mercerized cotton gar z to the hear mercerize d cotton bengatine, all are bear

The smartest shirt waists shown in th new stock of the most exclusive makers are, undoubtedly, the mercerized vest



will form the only trimming necessary fo es, the siky cotton In one of the cuts a version of this exagmattings with their Jacqua d stripes of gerated collar is given. The gown it adorns figures, and the satin damas, which s of white chiffon and the deep cape, fall shows fioral designs and suggests exquisite ing quite to the elbows, is of heavy ivory lace

table linen. These materials are, of course, rather heavy and must be made upon severely plain models; but they have body enough to fall gracefully, may be easily laundered

Of new stocks there is no end, but they deserve a story all their own

shirt cuff or the turnover charvet cuff

FRILLS OF FASHION.

Flower muffs are shown among Parisian novelties for spring. They are huge, flat, lined with chiffon frills, and, as a rule, in tended to accompany toques made of the

Flower turbans are to be pre- minently the things this spring, and aircady charming models of the kind have been sent over from Paris.

Dangles and tassels of all kinds reappea on the spring model gowns, and these pen-dent ornaments are being made in linens and cottons for use on the wash frocks.

Pendants made of velvet to match the material of the gown are a new wrinkle. They are made of strips of velvo: roller into semblance of a bud, and are an effective change from chenille and silk pendants.

Severely tailored frocks of white on black cloth are a fad of the moment with the fashionable Parisian women. The white cloth is in most cases embroidered in black chenille. The black cloth is trimmed in white bands embroidered in black chenille. All white tea gowns are the height of the

mode and grow more elaborate week by Tea gowns of batiste on finest muslin silk lined and lace trimmed, are considered

particularly chie. Milliner's folds have had a renaiss

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and appear upon the new frocks. Another old-time favorite once more coming into

Yak lace or heavy cluny dyed to match material is much used upon woollen frocks. The cloth is cut away under the lace and a chiffon lining is used to soften the effect.

Irish lace has lost much of its prest ge, chiefly because its tremendous popularity brought about a flood of cheap imitations. Fleece-backed pique washes perfectly,

yet has a warmth that commends it for early spring shirt waists. Stele leather bands, and hand-em broidered s è le are finding much favor in

Paris as trimmings. Wool embroideries in crewel stitches are to be more popular than ever for trimming woollen gowns. The wool laces will also be

Ombre or shaded effects are shown in many of the new sash ribbons, and it is said that the shading will also be seen in the sheer dress fabrics. A propular Parisian actress recently were a frock shading from flame color at the hem to palest salmon pink at the decolletage, and the success of the rock turned the thoughts of the makers f fashions toward things ombre

Ombre silk stockings are already in the market, and in some shades are remarkably

Sashes are a foregone conclusion as an accompaniment for summer frocks and are much worn with evening gowns now. Finishing sash ends with lace applique and running a design of inset lace for some distance from the ends will add greatly to the effect of the sash.

Turnover collars and cuffs are as the sands of the sea. They are most correct forms are very expensive. Both cuffs and collars are wider than they were last season.

Ornamental buttons are to continue their popularity with resettes or little silk



bows without ends, and with tassels dangling from their centers will be much used ordinary course of things buttons would be expected.

Lace mitts are again winning considerable liking. The latest are thumblers and fall far over the hand in a deep point.

Long stèle kid gloves have their arms inset with lace.

Ribbon embroideries are fashionable and wonderfully intricate. One design shows Louis XVI, baskets overflowing with sees and united by trails of ribbot

LUCKY WOMEN OF TO-DAY.

They Can Buy for a Little Money Things Their Mothers Had to Do Without. Owing to the achievements of modern machinery a woman to-day can have things

that her mother had to do without.

She can buy a hemstitched linen-cambrid handlerchief for one-half the sum that her mother commonly paid for a cotton one plain hemmed. the can buy all her household linen for

ed table, bath and pantry, finished with hemstitching ready for use, and at a quarter the cost of old time articles in this line that required measuring off and making in the family sewing room

She can have washable ribbons, something undreamed of by old-time shoppers. and washable dress goods in all the delicate hues that were formerly believed practicable only in silks and woollens.

She can have mergerized or silko'i te linings of any color for her gowns costing 10 cents or 12 cents a yard, light in weight and lustrous, whereas her mother had to put up with plain gray or slate-colored silesia, heavy and unyielding or else with

WIGS

any cause, our wigs quickly remedy all d fects. Are non-detectable, and har monize with the contour of wearer's face. The curling from not required, as they always retain their naturally wavy

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black paper cambric that would run, shrink and crinkle. She can have a rain coat or mackintosh

hat is soft, pliable, durable and becomingly colored for less than her mother paid for a stiff, gummy waterproof that became unsightly after a brief period of wear She can have dress shields for a nomina sum that are flexible and satisfactory; she can have light weight overshoes of graceful shape, instead of the clumsy gal ches formerly used.

She can get a pretty comforter for a few dollars that middle century housewives could have secured only by putting the materials in a quilting frame and working tediously for hours. She can have a Murseilles or honeycomb bedspread for the sum that was customarily expended on the plain yarns to be hand-crocheted or knitted into bed coverings.

She can have thin blown tumblers for her table at a price that astounds the shopper of fifteen years ago, tumblers pretty in design that put to shame the heavy, corrugated goblets that cost ten times the amount and dainty cruses and cruets with cut glass

stoppers are hers for a song.

She can have whole sets of spoons, forks and other silverware essentials, of quadruple plate, gracefully shaped and durable for less than the price her grandmother paid for ordinary pewter, or metal table utensils.

She can have a big bevel edge French

She can have a big bevel edge French plate mirror framed in golden oak or veneered mahogany for one-half the money her progenitors gave for a small facegiass in a pine frame. As seven to one is her advantage in looking glasses both as to quality and quantity.

She can have Holland shades on good spring rollers for her windows that her mother would have paid three times the present price for, can have wall paper at \$1.25 for a nine-yard roll that will successfully counterfeit leather, tapestry, or tiling, and can get her stationary, if necessary, at the rate of sixty sheets and envelopes for a dime and a nickel. The lineoleums or a dime and a nickel. The lineole

and oilcloths she gets for slight cost would make the old shoppers envious.

She can have a ready made cashmere house-gown, velvet trimmed and of good cut, for the price her mother paid for the materials to construct such a garment. She can buy a cotton wrapper, princess style for \$1.50 that would take the amateur dressmaker a week of steady work to build and trim.

She can buy embroidery edgings from She can buy embroidery edgings from three cents a yard up that are superior in quality and pattern to those the old time sneppers paid forty cents for. She can buy charming imitation laces whose prices and quality would set the buyer of ten years ago to wondering.

She can have soaps, liniments, ointments and toilet brushes for almost nothing compared with the cost of such articles tweaty years ago.

She pays 15 cents for a skirt binding that is better than the binding her mother paid

40 cents for. And she gets sewing silks, spool cotton, tapes and dress fastenings, not to mention scissors, thimble and other work table equipment for one-third the sum these things formerly brought. She can buy a California wool blanket for \$5 that is as large and as good as her mother customarily bought for \$10, and secure all-wool and silk and woollen underwear that is better fitting, more pliable and , prettier than old-time believers in woolien

togs ever could enjoy.
She can have an umbrella for \$1.50 that is lighter in weight, more durable as to cover and with a more ta-teful handle than \$3 or \$1 would secure a dozen years ago.

She can have a dinner set of American porcelain, 100 pieces daintily decorated, for

\$7; get tea plates of acceptable quality and design for a dime apiece, and all the entire china equipment for a table at figures that staggeringly small to the shoppers f a few decades ago. Her stockings, gloves and shoes come in

a quality considering the price that astonishes her elders. And she gets bargains in imported goods, both apparel and ornaments, that her mother or grandmother would have had to travel half over the globs for if she got them at all.

She can have trunks, satchels and pocket-books for a tithe of the price formerly paid

for these articles.

She can buy ingrain carpets and even

pretty enduring rugs and art squares for far less money than these appointments formerly brought.

She can have her photograph taken artistically for a sum which is very small in view of old-time prices for work much inferior. inferior.

And when her ornaments and valuables

have accumulated so as to become a care, she can have a household safe for their preservation, fireproof and burglar proof, at a cost of \$25, a luxury unknown to house-



Velcrema softens the skin and makes it like velvet-absolutely no greasy sub-stance-try it. 25c.

Women Who Bress Fashionably keep up to date by reading the Fa and studying the dress illustration the Women's Pages of THE n's Pages of THE SUNDAY on the Women's Pages of 1. and THE EVENING SUN. -Adv.

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over a fon. I this til their i ribbon One

by all them ingen The in flo carrie of all frings of na to wh thickling for were far be stead of all them.

ribbon beneat Any fringer the vi well to English flower almost carried Rose which

oft sca letage a Soating front. Gradu hang in another